GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4027
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2000
SUPPLY OF ELECTRONIC ITEMS TO GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS
CHANDRA NATH SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some electronic items such as fans, geysers, heat convectors, tubelights, electric bulbs etc. which are being supplied to various Government departments are not of standard brands and rates as prescribed by DGS&D;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that only popular and reputed brands and rates prescribed by DGS&D are supplied to the Government departments?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) to (c): After the decentralisation of adhoc purchases, the main role of DGS&D is restricted to conclusion of Rate Contracts for common user items required by various Government Ministries / Departments.The Rate Contracts are concluded by the DGS&D to generalised specifications on the basis of open tender / advertisement tender enquiry, keeping in view the guidelines given in the General Financial Rules (GFR) issued by the Ministry of FinanceUnder the provision of the GFR, Government purchases normally should be made through open tender system. The Central Government Ministries / Departments are expected to make use of the DGS&D Rate Contracts for procurement of items covered on the DGS&D Rate ContractThe GFR, however, also provides that in all cases of urgent need where there is likely to be delay in getting supplies of DGS&D Rate Contracted items through operation of such Rate Contracts, the same items could be purchased from the open market as long as the prices to be paid for such items do not exceed those stipulated in the Rate Contracts provided value of these purchases do not exceed Rs.20,000 at a time and Rs. one lakh in a year.
It may also be added here that parallel Rate Contracts are concluded by the DGS&D within a width of prices so as to include a number of suppliers. The parallel Rate Contracts are awarded for items including the items referred to in para (a) of the question, to all the eligible firms, irrespective of their brands, whose quoted prices are within the band of prices found reasonable for award of the Rate Contract for a particular items.